

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 22, 2010

7:00 PM

Council Committee Rooms

Development & Parks

*Beryl D. Anderson, Chair
Nancy R. McGregor
David L. Samuel*

Members Present: Beryl D. Anderson, Nancy R. McGregor and David L. Samuel

Additional Attendees:

Sadicka White; Anthony Jones; Tony Collins; Tom Weber; Brian Hoyt; Matt Huffman; Leah Evans; Doug Galiardi from G & N Enterprise; Kevin Blankenship from Next Level Fitness.

ISSUES - From Director of Parks & Recreation:

Authorize Contract - Class Acts -2010 Freedom Festival

Anderson called the meeting for Monday, March 22, to order; said the first item is from Parks.

Collins said this is a request for an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Class Acts Columbus, Inc. for the music at the Freedom Festival; they arrange for the entertainment; the money is already appropriated; it will be reduced in next year's contract; this is only for 2010; 2011 is not included; we reduced the amount for this year then it will be phased out; any questions.

Samuel said is it for 2 or 3 hours. Collins said 2 hours; it is the music before the fireworks. Samuel said is it family oriented. Collins said yes.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda.

Reallocation of Funds - Golf Cart

Collins said we are requesting a reallocation of funds; our golf carts were purchased so we are no longer leasing them; under the lease agreement we were getting a free beverage cart; when the lease ended they took that back; this request is to purchase a beverage cart; the purchase is still a significant savings and this cart provides significant revenue. Samuel said so we get a good return on our investment on the carts. Collins said yes; we do a lot of business on the beverage cart on league nights and weekends. Anderson asked what is the life of a cart. Collins said I would have to check to be sure; but they go for quite awhile; we keep them maintained and at the end of their service time, we can resell them; they have a high resale value which contributes to the good investment.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda.

Supplemental Appropriation - Senior Center

Collins said I am withdrawing this request for a supplemental appropriation for the Senior Center; in working with the Service Department, we have identified another funding source.

Golf Cart Maintenance Contract

Collins said this request is for golf cart maintenance; we told you when we purchased these that we would come back with this request later; this will authorize the Mayor to enter into agreement with Century Equipment to maintain the carts we now own. Samuel asked are they the low bidder. Collins they have provided very good service and have a history with us on this. Anderson said what are the terms of the contract. Collins said it is for one golf season; from June 1, 2010 to November 30, 2010. Samuel asked where

are the carts stored. Collins said not inside but under roof.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda.

Anderson asked if Parks had any other non-action items to update Council.

Collins said 1910 Day is Saturday, March 27 from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.; also golf and pool memberships are on sale; day camp registrations are ongoing; the restrooms and fountains will be opening April 1; the ice rink at Creekside will stay open until April 2 then go into storage. Samuel ask when does Paws in the Park start. Huffman said April 1.

ISSUES - From Director of Development:

CRA Application - G&N Enterprise Ltd.

White said we have a number of applications; 3 issues require Council action; we would also like to engage you in our 4th item which is the Hamilton Road Corridor Plan; I would like for you to see it; the person appointed to the committee from Council was Evers and, as he is no longer a Council member, I wanted you to see the direction of the plan.

Evans said the first CRA application is from G & N Enterprise, Ltd. at 1625 Eastgate Parkway; we are recommending a 75% tax abatement over 7 years; Galiardi constructed an 8,000 square foot office and warehouse for Electric Solutions, Inc.; they do solar panel retrofits and have been in operation since 1992; we believe they are financially secure; will be here for several years, and they have brought in 18 full time jobs; they do expect the business to grow and add jobs and eventually have a payroll of over a million dollars. Galiardi said he looked at Gahanna when relocating from Whitehall because of the cost of the land. Samuel said welcome to Gahanna. Galiardi said he has been a resident of Gahanna for 30 years; moving my business here was something I have wanted to do for quite awhile. White said we are asking for action on this; we would like Council's approval.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda.

CRA Application - Next Level Fitness & Training

Evans said Blankenship had his business located on Mill Street in Olde Gahanna; looked into Cross Pointe to build his 19,000 square foot sports field house; he can do baseball, softball, all types of sports, and he has a base of members already which added value; now they can come over for lunch workouts; this project covers over 2 acres and he spent over a million dollars; the business model is different for this kind of operation; there are 8 full time jobs but he also has subcontractors with their own people to come in for training and classes; the business grew in Gahanna and he wanted to keep the experience here; we are asking for a 75% tax abatement over 7 years to reduce operation costs; we are excited to have them in our community and want to keep them. Anderson said welcome to Gahanna; do you plan on employing students there; how is the ripple effect. White said the subcontractors that run sports are from Gahanna. McGregor said the subcontractors pay income tax don't they. White said yes; they provide 1099's.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda.

Fiber Agreement - CIC and City

Jones provided a power point presentation on the Fiber Agreement between Gahanna and the CIC (Community Improvement Corporation); a copy is available in the Council

office. The request is to amend the current agreement.

Questions:

McGregor said she was not a technical specialist; would still ask why are we doing this; isn't Blue Mile overseeing this; why us. Jones said the contract company is there for WiFi and high speed services; this agreement is to utilize the fiber locally primarily to connect to the internet and save them money. McGregor said then is \$450 per fiber enough. Jones said yes; on a per fiber basis, this is what it works out to.

Samuel asked if we have had any inquiries about the fiber from other businesses. Jones said absolutely; this can directly be a benefit to their bottom line with enhanced operations and reduced costs. Anderson said how does it reduce their bottom line. Jones said right now they have to go with the top 2 providers; they pay installation and receive service directly from the provider and pay whatever the provider charges; our fiber connection eliminates the last mile costs; they can work with various internet providers. Anderson said the request is to expand the bandwidth; it is changing from 2 fibers to 6; and up to 48 depending on need; do we have to ok the increase in capacities. Jones said this should be a sufficient amount to meet their needs but the agreement does allow us to expand and not come back. Anderson said why 48; what does that number mean.

Kneeland said they wanted 144; we negotiated down to 48; we had to give them enough and still give Blue Mile comfort that we were not going to compete with them; it made a lot of sense to allow them to have additional capacity on the horizon; they can grow their business; the 48 fibers are within the City; to leave the City to go to the data center there are 2; this will grow within the City and allow us to capture revenue from the back side and reduce our development costs from the General Fund. Anderson said how do we compare to other cities. Jones said we are trend setters; New Albany has 96 all committed to the Blue Mile project; Dublin doesn't do it this way; they don't go out to a data center; it is basic; Westerville just started up. Kneeland said we are more like New Albany but we are more flexible. White said once this was deployed, it makes us the most competitive; I had 8 business visits scheduled; the first one had a need for T3 and so they were very interested; they sent us the information so they could be first; this certainly gives us a competitive edge.

White said this does have action needed; is being presented to just this committee and you can, with your recommendation, determine if it needs to go on to Committee of the Whole. Kneeland said I think the Development Committee can make a recommendation as this is an update to an existing agreement. Weber said we need to repeal the existing agreement to put this in place. McGregor said I am glad Kneeland was here since I am not technical. Kneeland said we went over it thoroughly; we need an ordinance to authorize this agreement and repeal the old one.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, no need to come back; 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda on both issues.

Hamilton Road Corridor Update

This item moved to Finance Committee Agenda for Monday, March 23.

Della Brandenberger, Reporting